

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1142 without my signature.

I applaud the author's efforts to establish a science-specific program of professional development for teachers. The costs associated with this bill are in excess of \$415 million that were not approved by the Legislature in this year's State Budget Act. Absent the funding available in the Budget, this bill would likely create pressure to reduce the funding provided for the Mathematics and Reading Professional Development Program to be redirected to this program. It is vital that we do not redirect resources from focusing on providing professional development that is targeted to math and reading, the cornerstones of a solid educational foundation.

I support the professional development of science teachers in California classrooms, but would like to have the Legislature work with the Administration and all interested parties when prioritizing funding for inclusion in the final State Budget before I can sign a measure like this.

For this reason, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger